

Access



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AccessMichigan Databases Announced for Fiscal Year 2002/2003

In March, the Library of Michigan announced the databases which will be included in AccessMichigan for the subscription year beginning October 1, 2002 and ending September 30, 2003. An additional database will be added to this service and will be announced no later than mid-May.

This selection of databases is designed to meet the basic information needs of all types of libraries and their users. While it was not possible to renew subscriptions to all of the databases which had previously been included in this service, AccessMichigan continues to offer a broad range of online resources to the librarians and residents of Michigan.

SIRS Discoverer Deluxe

The subscription with SIRS has been renewed. This database will continue to be available through all Michigan libraries and via remote patron access.

Electric Library

Starting on October 1, 2002, the Electric Library Elementary will also be accessible at academic libraries in addition to school and public libraries. While this may not be a high-demand database at the academic level, college students who are pursuing a degree in education might be interested in familiarizing themselves with this resource. BigChalk and ProQuest agreed to allow this access at no additional cost.

GALE Group/InfoTrac etc

The Gale Group databases will include InfoTrac Custom Newspapers, AncestryPlus, General

Reference Center-Gold, Health Reference Center-Academic and Health & Wellness Resource Center. Due to budgetary cuts this fiscal year, LM was forced to cancel the statewide subscription to InfoTrac Kids Edition. However, Gale has generously agreed to make their new graphical kids resource, Kids Enhanced Graphical Interface, available to all libraries as part of the renewal package of resources starting now and continuing through September 30, 2003.

As part of AccessMichigan, Gale will also continue to provide all 120 newspapers in its Custom Newspapers for all Michigan libraries through September 30, 2003.

FirstSearch

For the past three years, and through the end of September 2002 the State of Michigan has had access via OCLC's FirstSearch to a package of databases called the "Panorama Package." The database vendors no longer allow OCLC to offer this package. The cost to continue providing access to the databases previously in the Panorama Package (excluding Books in Print) would be more than 62% over last year's price.

While it is not possible for LM to fund all of the previous FirstSearch Panorama databases, a package has been negotiated that will allow the Library of Michigan to continue to provide access to a majority of the most heavily used resources. Between October 1, 2002 through September 30,



by Jo Budler,
Deputy State Librarian



Public Library Funding Initiative Group (PLFIG) Kickoff

by Eileen M. Palmer, PLFIG Coordinator

Jigsaw puzzles amaze me. You start with a view of the entire puzzle printed on the box, take one good look for reference, then tumble out the pieces in a pile on the table, at which point eager hands dive in, everyone starting to work together. First, like colors go with like colors, blue for sky, green for trees, brown for land. All the pieces with straight edges get lined up together, cause they're going to be the border. Then everyone begins matching pieces together and a sense of community rises around the table, everyone working together to reach a common goal.

Today, Michigan's libraries are engaged in a great venture of discovery with many pieces of our puzzle now beginning to come together.

But in our case the venture and the prize are more than a picture puzzle. They are the development of a comprehensive state library system. We already have a vision of that goal, and I'm pleased to say we are creating a picture that brings together all aspects of future library service.

Nearly 200 librarians and trustees are working on the puzzle, absorbed in their tasks of sorting out the services, joining piece with piece, weighing options, putting together an exciting picture of enhanced library services. Library committees such as PLFIG are working on the funding pieces, ATLAS has the statewide resource sharing parts, PRISM is connecting the library promotion section, and QSAC has to match up the parts for quality measures in public libraries.

Slowly, over the next year, the puzzle pieces will come together. When our work is done, our customers will be see a cohesive whole, where before they saw only random, unconnected parts.

We can all imagine a picture that will result from the completion of the puzzle. I try to envision the puzzle pieces from a customer's perspective: through a highway bill board sign and a television spot (the work of PRISM), Mary and Jack see that they can find library resources from all over the state via the online statewide library portal (the work of ATLAS). The couple search online and note that a neighboring library has a special collection they want to see. They travel to the library, and using their MI-card, (the work of PLFIG) check out the materials they want. Mary and Jack were happy to find information at the neighboring library, but their hearts are with their local library. They appreciate its customer-oriented service, as recognized by its status as an excellent "Gold" library (the work of QSAC).

With our collective minds, love of libraries, and goodwill, the puzzle will soon be put together and the picture evident.

Cherie

In February, the PLFIG project took on some new dimensions as committees were formed to develop a response to the issues outlined in the 2001 report entitled *Creating Stability and Equity in Michigan's Public Libraries*. Over 60 librarians and trustees from around the state convened in East Lansing at the Kellogg Center on February 25, 2002 to participate in a kick-off of one of the largest public library planning initiatives ever undertaken in Michigan.

Attendees heard PLFIG Steering Committee Chair Saul Amdursky (director of Kalamazoo Public Library) urge the library community to believe in libraries, ourselves and our ability to achieve real and lasting changes in the ways public libraries are funded. State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau reminded us that it is all about the library service we can deliver and that we should work to define the kind of future library service we believe our state's residents should have access to. While much of the focus naturally centers on achieving increased funding, we cannot be successful if we are not able to articulate and demonstrate the benefits of high quality, equitable library service to the public.

Before getting down to the committee work, Jean Tabor described the genesis of this funding initiative and Eileen Palmer described the process for moving forward from this point on. Rounding out the presentations were updates from Randy Dykhuis on ATLAS, Roger Mendel on PRISM and Stephen Kershner on MLA's role as these projects develop. After hearing about all of these exciting projects and the ways in which they inter-relate, it was obvious to all participants that we have never been more clearly focused on improving library service.

The committees that began their work on February 25th include:

- Collection Development Committee, Pam Christensen, Chair
- State and Local Funding Committee, Bob Raz and Christine Hage, Co-Chairs
- Library Establishment Committee, Phyllis Clark, Chair
- MiCard Committee, Jean Tabor, Chair

PLFIG also unveiled a new web site with a new address:
www.plfig.org

Genealogy Specialist

A Passion for Pursuing the Past: Genealogy Specialist

Carole Callard



Carole Callard with Barbara Brown

by Sarah D. Watkins, Executive Director of the Library of Michigan Foundation

How many of us can say that we love what we do? How many can say it unequivocally, unreservedly and with enthusiasm? Carole Callard can. With her arms crossed and a little nod of her head, Carole says: “I have always loved library work. It’s a great career for me!” And, when she does this, you can see the inner glow that confirms it as fact.

Carole Callard was born and raised in West Virginia. She still retains a distinctive lilting drawl from her growing-up years and an easy cadence to her speech that settles comfortably on the ears. From a young age, Carole was fascinated by history and followed that interest to receive a baccalaureate degree in history from the University of Charleston before going on to earn two master level degrees—one in Social Foundations from Eastern Michigan University, the other a Master of Library Science degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

Only a few years ago, in 1995, Carole took advantage of an early retirement opportunity. However, she didn’t retire, she simply moved to a new position at the U. S. Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C. as a depository library inspector. Then in 1996 Carole moved on to another opportunity at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The cries of “where’s Carole?” and “we want her back!” from the patrons at the Library of Michigan that began upon Carole’s departure in 1995 persisted until 1997. That’s when the Abrams Foundation, a Lansing-based family foundation under the leadership of Barbara Brown, herself an avid genealogist, came through for the Library of Michigan and its patrons by funding the Abrams Chair of Genealogy and bringing Carole Callard back to Lansing. Barbara says, “Carole’s presence is so important to the genealogists using the Library of Michigan. She is a big help to the patrons. She is kind, caring and unpretentious in her willingness to be of help. That’s just so valuable to people working on their family history.”

“Carole’s breadth of knowledge and competency, her enormous willingness to help, and her humility; all these things make it pleasant for people to work with her,” says

Joe Druse, a long-time patron and genealogist. Another genealogist who has worked with Carole for many years, Ruth Lewis, says, “...she absolutely loves the work, she just has a passion for it.”

Mark Hoffman, Deputy Director of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries and a committed historian and genealogist, had these good things to say about Carole: “When I started working on my own family tree, I had the good fortune to ask Carole for beginner’s tips. In particular, Carole explained just how important it is to carefully document my sources and work from a plan instead of just chasing leads around. Her good advice still forms the basis for the organization and documentation of my genealogical research many years later. She’s the best!”

Carole Callard travels extensively on behalf of the Library of Michigan and the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection lecturing at local, state and national genealogical conferences. In 2001 alone, she made more than 40 presentations in the United States and Canada.

Keeping a list of one special accomplishment each year is something that Carole Callard has done for many years. Here’s an excerpt from that list for the past four years: October 1998, presented Genealogy and Government Documents for the U. S. Government Printing Office; August 1999, presented to the Federation of Genealogy Societies in Cincinnati, Ohio; July 2000, lecturer for the National Archives and Records Administration; and, June 2001, presenter at the American Library Association Preconference for Librarians.

We aren’t keeping a count of Carole’s accomplishments and contributions, for they are simply too numerous to list. We can, however, express our appreciation and say, “Great job, Carole. We love how you love what you do so well!”

The Abrams Foundation provides a gift to the Library of Michigan Foundation annually to maintain the Genealogy Specialist position and to insure that genealogists using the state library in their work benefit from the high level of experience and knowledge that Carole possesses. It’s a wonderful gift.



LIBRARY OF
MICHIGAN
FOUNDATION

Computers & Seniors Connect at the Oak Park Public Library

*Librarian
Pat McClary
from Oak Park
Public Library
instructs local
seniors on
the computers.*



*Contributed by Pat McClary, Librarian,
Oak Park Public Library*

The collaboration of the Oak Park Public Library and the City of Oak Park has successfully created the Oak Park Senior Computer Workshop and Oak Park Computer Club. The facilitator/instructors are Patricia McClary, Librarian and Lynn Davey, Assistant Senior Citizen Coordinator.

The Park Senior Computer Workshop offers a four-week course to seniors in the community with tuition incentive to members of the Oak Park 50-up Club. Seniors who have completed the workshop and are active in the computer club assist as volunteer instructors in the course.

Oak Park Computer Club is a non-profit group dedicated to providing information, education and a forum for both new and advanced computer users. The club was established to help individuals better understand personal computing. The club strives to provide continued education in technology and computer skills through an information network and professional expertise of guest speakers in the field. An Oak Park librarian and a city representative facilitate/present programs coordinated by the club's membership.

Esther Bogorad, resident and member of the Oak Park Computer Club stated that "(The computer class)...brings senior citizens into the current world. I was offered a new job shortly after taking the class, and I was able to apply what I had learned."

For more information about either of these programs, contact:

John Martin, Director Oak Park Public Library,
14200 Oak Park Boulevard, Oak Park, MI 48237,
Phone: 248-691-7483,
Email: jmartin@ci.oak-park.mi.us

Partners in Time—

The Michigan Historical Center

by Diana Engle

As part of the new Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries, the Library of Michigan has a solid partner in an old friend—the Michigan Historical Center.

The Michigan Historical Center (MHC) and the Library of Michigan (LM) have been neighbors within the Michigan Library and Historical Center in Lansing since 1989. Many LM patrons have toured the Michigan Historical Museum (flagship of an 11-site system) and conducted research at the State Archives of Michigan—both part of the MHC—during their visits to the facility.

Headed by Sandra S. Clark, the MHC administers other state history programs as well. The Office of the State Archaeologist manages Michigan archaeological resources on land and in the Great Lakes; the State Historic Preservation Office protects Michigan's historic properties; and the Publications Section produces Michigan History magazine and booklets on state history.

To learn more about the Michigan Historical Center and its wealth of programs, visit the MHC on-line at www.michigan-history.org

The State Historic Preservation Office

Established in response to the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act, the SHPO identifies, evaluates, registers, interprets and protects Michigan's historic resources—including some of the architecture discussed in this issue of *Access*. The staff administers a number of state and federal programs, including environmental review and tax incentive programs, the Michigan Historical Marker program and the National Register of Historic Places.

Libraries Reaching Out to the Senior Community

compiled by Lucy Roehrig, Public Services Librarian

A big thank you to all who contributed to my request via Michlib-!! Due to space limitations, the following is a sampling of some of the wonderful programs that libraries around the state are offering their senior communities.

Bloomfield Township Public Library

Cecilia Ann Marlow, Project Coordinator

The Bloomfield Township Public Library has senior services like: on-site, one-on-one hands-on computer training for the catalog and online databases, as well as the MLA-award-winning program "Saturdays Are Grand" which is a Saturday morning story experience for grandparents with grandkids. In addition, book talks and book club collections are provided for most of the area's groups, including Bloomfield Township's senior group, Mature Minglers. A substantial large print materials collection and bibliographies and "webliographies" specifically for those materials and sites geared to seniors are available on-site. Please check out the Bloomfield Township Public Library's web site (www.btpl.org) where you'll find a button for seniors amongst the buttons on the left side.

Brighton District Library

Mary Johnson, Outreach Librarian

Senior services at Brighton District Library include: book delivery to three senior residences in the Brighton area; individual book delivery to homebound seniors by volunteers; occasional daytime computer classes for seniors; a low-vision center at BDL for patron use; and 2 large print magazines and a good-sized collection of large print books, both fiction and nonfiction, available at the library. In addition, each year they publish, in-house, a Senior Directory containing phone numbers seniors will find useful. Currently, the 2001 edition is available online at the library's website and Mary Johnson is updating the print copy for 2002. If you want to get an idea of what it contains, their web address is www.brighton.lib.mi.us and it is listed under services on the left side of the page.

Delta Township Public Library

Mary Rzepczynski, Public Services Librarian

The Delta Township Public Library currently offers outreach to five senior centers in Delta Township. Their Friends Group supports the purchase of large print materials that are rotated between each of the centers. Each collection has between 50-60 titles, and 4 new titles are added each month. In addition to the quarterly rotation of books, their dedicated staff member, Kathy Nuss, makes

monthly visits to each of the senior centers. At each of the visits she presents an author talk, signs seniors up for new library cards, brings special requests from their circulating collection and spends a lot of time just listening. They have received overwhelming positive feedback from the senior center administrators and residents. They have found this a wonderful way to make books available to those who may not have any other way of accessing them.

Farmington Community Library

Tina Theeke, Branch Head

The Farmington Community Library provides regular monthly visits to the residents of 22 nursing facilities and residences in Farmington and Farmington Hills. These services are designed to meet the needs of the individuals at the sites, and most often include: deposit collections of large print and popular fiction titles; and, visits to groups and to individuals on a room-to-room basis, providing reader's advisory service and assistance with requests for information. They also have a CyberSeniors program that began with a federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant awarded through the Library of Michigan. The library is working in partnership with 2 community agencies. The program has resulted in collaborations with local agencies, matching seniors and elementary students in mentoring experiences.

Flint Public Library

Kay Schwartz, Cybrarian

One of the current activities at the Flint Public Library is a program called "Seniors Connect @ Flint Public Library" sponsored in part by a grant from SBC Ameritech and cyberstate.org. There are several components to the program, detailed on their web site at <http://www.flint.lib.mi.us/seniors/>. Their Senior Learning Lab usually has 10 to 12 seniors every morning Mon-Thurs, using the Internet, using Video Professor, practicing mouse skills etc. under the tutelage of three trained senior lab assistants.

Grand Rapids Public Library,

Sue Squire, Communications Manager

Whether mobile or homebound, the Grand Rapids Public Library offers a variety of programs and services to meet the needs and interests of Grand Rapids seniors. Through the \$31 million Library Improvement Project, eight Grand Rapids Public Library locations will be fully handicap accessible. In addition, seniors with disabilities may visit either the main or Seymour Branch library where

wheelchairs are available for patron use without charge.

For seniors who are homebound, the Books-by-Mail program delivers titles to their door. More than 1,700 items were delivered to program participants last year. Seniors in care facilities are also served by the GRPL. Deposit collections at 20 area facilities made more than 6,700 items available to residents.

Monroe County Library

Jodi Russ, Technology Trainer

The Monroe County Library offers a "Senior Moments in Computing" seminar. Senior citizens are invited to attend a six-week seminar to introduce them to the world of computing. They explore the physical parts of a computer, work in the Windows environment, learn how to use a word processing program and email, and how to search for information on the Internet. Jodi Russ stated that she has had a great time teaching the classes because these folks are such eager learners.

Novi Public Library

Katie Bell Moore, Head of Specialized Services

The Novi Public Library does monthly book deliveries to 5 different senior facilities in Novi and maintains in-house collections at two of those facilities. They also provide a homebound delivery service that serves mainly seniors. They do a monthly senior book discussion group that is very popular and maintain a thorough and up-to-date large print book collection. The most popular senior service is their Internet classes. They offer 4 different classes that cover using the mouse, basic Internet skills, using e-mail and a practice lab. These classes are always full and always have a waiting list. Seniors have told Katie Bell Moore, Head of Specialized Services at Novi Public Library, that they have taken computer classes elsewhere but they like the library classes the best because library staff is so patient and hands-on allows for experience. Plus, classes are free (always a bonus!) and are offered during daytime hours so seniors don't have to drive at night. See more about Novi Public Library senior services at <http://www.novi.lib.mi.us/specserv/>.

Orion Township Public Library

Penny Peterson, Department Head of Outreach Services

The Orion Public Library has a book club at the Senior Center Library, located in the Lake Orion Senior Center, which meets once a month for an informal, relaxed and sometimes lively discussion. The library features a collection of 1500 large print titles and 100 books on tape, as well as at least 50 magazines geared to the older audience. Their greatest achievement has been the installation of a computer center consisting of four PC's all linked to the Internet, and each has a printer. The program has senior volunteers teaching other seniors how to use the computer. The program is four years old and over 300 seniors

have gotten their own email address and learned to surf the net.

Rochester Hills Public Library,

June Hopaluk, Head of Outreach Services

The Rochester Hills Public Library has provided outreach services to older persons throughout their community for almost 30 years. Today, their Outreach Services Department is dedicated to providing services to older persons and others who may not be able to visit the library due to illness or disability. The Outreach Services Department operates eight mini-branch libraries at senior apartment communities and the local senior center. The mini-branch libraries provide best sellers, large print books, paperbacks, audio books, videos and magazines. While library outreach staff purchase and process materials for the mini-branches, resident volunteers provide day-to-day on-site maintenance, including tracking circulation statistics, shelving materials and helping patrons find materials. Deliveries from the main library arrive at the mini-branches every Thursday, bringing special requests as well as materials for on-going patrons who receive two to four items personally selected for them by outreach librarians. In addition to the mini-branches, they also provide biweekly book cart service to residents of four local assisted living and extended care facilities. Library volunteers and outreach services staff deliver materials to homebound persons of all ages. One longtime homebound patron says, "There is nothing on television. The days are so long and I don't sleep well at night. When I wake up in pain, reading is my lifeline. I wouldn't survive without the books from the library." In 1991 their services earned the American Library Association's Bessie Boehm Moore Award for exemplary services to older persons.

Roseville Public Library

Rita Paniccia, Librarian

The Roseville Public Library offers a Materials by Mail Program for homebound residents (many of whom are seniors). In 1998, their library was awarded a federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant through the Library of Michigan. The grant enabled them to institute this free service for Roseville residents. Any of their circulating items (books, magazines, books on tape/cd, music cds, videos, etc) are mailed directly to residents' homes at no cost to the residents. When residents have finished with the items they return them in the pouch in which the items were delivered. There is a merchandise return card with the pouch so that there is no charge for returning the items. Pouches are delivered and picked up from residents' mailboxes by the postal service. There are currently 22 patrons participating in the program and the library has mailed over 2,000 items. Since the grant only covered start-up and the first year of operation, the Friends of the Roseville Public Library have assisted by providing financial support to offset the mailing costs.

Web Site-ings

by Lucy Roehrig, Library of Michigan
Reference Librarian & Knowledge Seeker

May is... Older Americans Month

American Association of Homes & Services for the Aging
<http://www.aahsa.org/>

American Association of Retired People
<http://www.aarp.org/>

Area Agencies on Aging by State
<http://www.mfaaa.org/agingnetwork.html#AAA>

Elderhostel
<http://www.elderhostel.org/>

Eldernet
<http://www.eldernet.com/>

FirstGov for Seniors
<http://www.seniors.gov/>

Kenny Mobility Center
http://comnet.org/local/orgs/kenny/cat_item.html

Medicare homepage (includes nursing home compare)
<http://www.medicare.gov/default.asp>

MEL- Links on Aging
<http://www.mel.org/social/SOC-aging.html>

MEL- Retirement Sites
<http://www.mel.org/social/SOC-retired.html>

Michigan Access to Services for Seniors
<http://www.miseniors.net/>

Michigan's Online Long Term Care Resource
<http://www.1866michltc.net/Default.asp?bhcp=1>

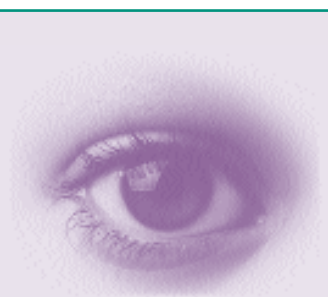
Michigan Senior Olympics
<http://michiganseniorolympics.com/>

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
<http://www.n4a.org/>

Senior Alliance Links
<http://www.aaa1c.org/links.htm>

State of Michigan Senior Services
http://www.michigan.gov/emi/1,1303,7-102-112_218---,00.html

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services- Administration on Aging
<http://www.aoa.dhhs.gov/>



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Sandusky District Library

John Bezotte, Special Projects Director

Late last year, the Sandusky District Library began a "Mini Lending Library" at the Sandusky local senior citizen complex and meal site. It includes a selection of regular and large print books in fiction and non-fiction titles, selected by Gail Nartker, Sandusky library director. The library also provides 10 magazine subscriptions to the facility. The materials are checked out to a common card for the facility and are exchanged monthly. Prior to providing the "Mini Lending Library," the library conducted a survey of the residents of the complex to determine what kinds of materials they preferred. The results of the survey have dictated the kinds of books and magazines the library provides.

Waterford Township Public Library

Karen O'Connor,

Head Branch Library and Outreach Services

Karen O'Connor has been the head of outreach services at the Waterford Township Public Library for 25 years with a focus on serving the senior population. These include homebound visiting, mini-branch libraries at senior resident buildings, and some programming. She has also overseen special collections, i.e. large print, audio books, programming materials, magnifiers, etc. A recent service she initiated, and one that has grown during the past few years, is to work closely with other service providers serving Waterford residents. In coalition with these professionals, a directory of available services was deliverable that would be useful to both seniors themselves, their families and also the service providers. The directories have been published about every 18 months.

Library Construction Projects: *Making Yours a Dream Not a Nightmare*

*by Sandra R. Knes, Library Director, Loutit District Library and
Chair of the Continuing Education Committee, Lakeland Library Cooperative*

In December 2001, the Lakeland Library Cooperative's Continuing Education Committee presented a workshop on library construction projects. The morning was divided between the keynote address and a panel discussion.

Christine Lind Hage, director of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library and builder of many libraries, started the morning off with her keynote address. Highlights of this presentation were:

- A projected time line for various elements of a construction project.
- Bibliography of books and articles on library space planning and building plus a handout from a construction company with definitions of important construction terminology.
- Necessity of needs assessment and building program statement
- Overview of financial considerations.
- Construction Team – Library, Builder, Architect, Clerk of the Works
- Examples of Request for Qualifications and questions to ask when interviewing prospective architects and construction companies.
- Importance of documentation.
- Change orders.

For the panel discussion, we invited directors/managers of libraries within the Lakeland Library Cooperative to share their experiences, expertise and expletives (I

really meant frustrations but it didn't alliterate so nicely). The members were:

Judi McNally,

Fremont Area District Library

Mary Hollinrake,

Wyoming Branch of the Kent District Library

Jan Sall,

Allendale Township Library

Bill Baldridge,

Grand Rapids Public Library

Dave Stracke,

Plainfield Township Branch of the Kent District Library

Melissa Huismann,

Gary Byker Memorial Library, Hudsonville

Diane Cutler,

Cascade Branch of the Kent District Library

From these speakers we learned about:

- The importance of having people on your board or building committee that can ask for money (large amounts)
- Naming opportunities and their value
- Importance of site plans
- Being excited about your project
- Working with government officials
- Communications with architects, boards and construction personnel
- Walking the project

Buchanan District Library Renovation Project

by Judy Smith, Director

In October 2000, the Buchanan library became a district library. We also decided to automate our circulation process and then, as if we did not have enough to do, we purchased a building. A local business moved its corporate offices to another state, leaving a building available in the downtown area. The location is great since it forms a cultural circle in the town with the museum, park, senior center and theater. Since the building is 28,000 square feet on three floors, it is much larger than our current facility of

5,000 square feet. This seemed the perfect solution for everyone.

In the past the library board had difficulties with architects, they decided to avoid that route completely. Instead, they requested "design/build" proposals. Needless to say, we ended up trying to compare apples to oranges. There also was a dispute over the necessity to reinforce the floor in the stack areas. This was resolved by having an engineering firm perform an "outside study." Once the bid was awarded, progress was immediately apparent. Demolition was speedy and exciting and soon we had a large open space on the first floor that was to become

(Continued on page 9)

decided that we would concentrate on the first floor and use the basement for storage. The city of Buchanan has an option to purchase the second floor but no renovation work will be done there until a final decision is made.

There have been setbacks, i.e. the \$10,190 gas bill (definitely a mistake), changed orders (try to avoid these at all cost), trying to get seven people to agree on colors, and assorted "surprises" every older building presents. As we get closer to completion, however, we become more excited and anticipate moving into our new library in mid-June. The expanded space and opportunities for service to the community far outweigh the struggles.

Dorr Township's new library

by *Suanne Wierenga, Director*



Dorr Township's new library opened to the public on January 28, 2002. It welcomes patrons with a soaring cathedral ceiling, spacious seating areas and large windows that offer streaming daylight and a view of the surrounding countryside. Maple furniture with a pickled finish and neutral shelving add to the light and airy feeling of the library. The 7,100 square foot building utilizes radiant heat from the floor, a heated sidewalk at the front of the building and a metal roof system that combines to provide easy maintenance of the facility. A pictorial diary of the construction can be viewed at www.dorrrlibrary.org.

Grand Renaissance

by *Sue Squire, Communications Manager*
Grand Rapids Public Library

More than three-quarters complete, the Grand Rapids Public Library's Library Improvement Project is the largest capital improvement project ever undertaken by a Michigan public library. The project includes constructing or renovating six branch libraries, as well as an extensive renovation to the main library. A seventh branch library had been renovated prior to the current building project.

The \$31 million project is funded by a 1997 bond millage, interest income from the bonds, and \$8 million raised privately by the Ryerson Library Foundation.



Dave Clark and Phil Davis of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr and Huber, Inc. (Ada, MI), are lead architects for the branch improvements. FTCH is also coordinating with the New York firm Hardy, Holzman, Pfeiffer Associates, lead architects on the \$17 million main library renovation. The last branch to be completed, the West Leonard Branch, is slated to open late summer 2002 and the main library is expected to re-open in January 2003. At completion, GRPL will include seven branch libraries and the main library. For more information, contact library director Bob Raz at (616) 988-5400.

Hesperia Public Library

by *Liz Nordin, Director*



Hesperia Public Library began an expansion and renovation project in late November 2001. The plan was to expand the facility that was opened in 1962, from 3,400 sq ft to 11,700. The cost of the project is \$1.8 million. A \$1.5 million bond issue was passed by the voters in March 2001. Additional funding is being provided by the Fremont Area Foundation, the Gerber Foundation and a capital campaign.

The expanded facility will include study rooms, a reading room, a children's room and two meeting rooms. The architect is Dennis Jensen, DesignWorks, AE in Grand Rapids. Construction management is being provided by Elmridge Construction Company. Completion is scheduled for late summer 2002.

Manchester District Library Settling into New Facility

by Patty Swaney, Library Board Member

The image that became the trademark for the successful millage campaign a year and a half ago for the Manchester District Library, newly formed in May of 2000, showed the old building bursting at the seams. This was an appropriate picture for the time, as the building had housed the township library for 67 years and had nowhere to expand. Following the successful passage of the millage by area townships, an agreement was signed between the village of Manchester and the district library for the use of the 5,000 square feet of space in the village's newly acquired office building. Renovations began during the summer of 2001 for the library facility in this building originally designed and owned by Henry Ford (1941) as a small manufacturing plant. It later was remodeled into business offices, a renovation which made the conversion to a library fairly simple. While the Manchester District Library is still classified as a "small library," the 5,000 square foot area it now occupies is spacious and accessible to all.

The new director of the Manchester District Library, Kate Pittsley, came on board last summer, and she helped in the planning, designing and moving of the library into its new facility. Kate holds a master's degree in Information and Library Science from the University of Michigan. Before coming to Manchester, she worked at electronic, public and academic libraries including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she was the associate head of the Dewey Library. "I like the purpose of a small library" Kate said. "We have only 16,000 volumes. You can make a big difference through a community library. You work with a wide range of people. ...you aren't just in your office. You make more contacts with people."

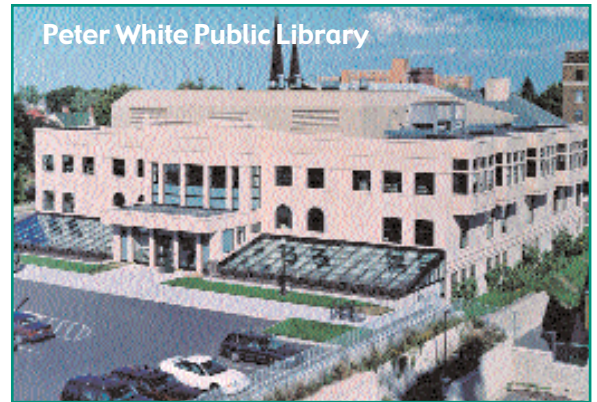
The library was opened for business on October 1, 2001, and Kate observes, "This is a beautiful space where people will want to spend time. We are already seeing that people are coming here to browse and to spend time, rather than just coming to choose a book and then leave."

The new library is highly accessible to handicapped patrons with wide aisles and plenty of open space. Parking is easy. Public Internet access computers, as well as computers with educational programs in the children's area, are offered. The new district library location is the old Ford Plant, also the new home of the village offices, at 912 City Road, Manchester, 48158. A formal dedication will take place in the spring.

Peter White Public Library

by Pam Christensen, Director

The Peter White Public Library's \$9.0 million renovation and expansion was completed in October 2000, after seven



years of planning. The best part of the project was the way that so many members of the community got involved with the planning, fund raising and construction of the project. Over 100 volunteers raised over \$4.5 million to match a city bond issue. Volunteers also gave "hard hat" tours of the building while under construction. These tours were very popular with the public and were usually attended by 100 or more people

The Youth Services Department and Upper Peninsula Children's Museum held a series of design workshops for youth and families for the purpose of designing the Children's Department and Teen Area. The resulting Lake Superior theme, with boat shaped service desk, is a hit with visitors of all ages.



Our general contractor suggested that all parties involved in the project participate in a partnering agreement. This concept is endorsed by the Associated General Contractors of America. The library and general contractor received the Melvin M. Black Partnering Award at the Associated General Contractors of America's national convention. We also received the Michigan AGC Excellence in Partnering recognition award. Partnering really helped us resolve big issues (i.e., when the corner of the 1904 building collapsed and the carpet order was discovered to be wrong only weeks before the facility was expected to reopen!!!).

The renovation/expansion project was an exciting and rewarding process. I learned the importance of a visionary architectural/engineering team, dedicated project clerk, experienced general contractor, committed sub-contractors and enthusiastic community. Most of all, it is important to have patience and to listen to the rest of your team.

Two in One Year!

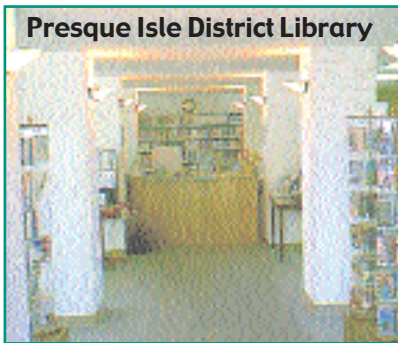
by Jan Stevenson, Director

This has been perhaps the busiest year in the history of Presque Isle District Library. Not only did we move an entire library in our Onaway location, but also we renovated and added on to the main location in Rogers City. All this was completed while I, the director, was finishing my Masters in Library and Information Science, at the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. That's a busy year, but that's not all! New carpeting and shelving were added to our Grand Lake location and a few new shelves were added to the Posen location.

If you decide to visit our beautiful newly renovated facility at Rogers City, you might notice our employee's arms are a little longer this year and perhaps just a little stronger than your normal librarians. These employees moved the entire collection of 48,000 plus items, a total of 3 times within one month, to accommodate new carpeting. Yes, there was local volunteer help from Kiwanis members and trustees from the County Sheriff Department; however, the staff deserves a round of applause for helping everything go as smoothly as it did.



The Onaway location of the Presque Isle District Library is perhaps one of the most unique libraries in Michigan. Large white pillars greet patrons as they first enter, with a toasty warm fireplace, donated by the Friends group, gracing one end of the building. The library is now housed at what was originally the bottom floor of Onaway's courthouse, at one time used as their jail. You would never know it, unless of course you walk out into the front foyer to see the jail cell left there as a momentum of days gone by. The citizens of Onaway and the Onaway Friends warrant a standing ovation as they have raised not only money to renovate the bottom floor of their courthouse for the library but also the second floor for their historical museum. They are still in need of funding, yet they seem relentless when it comes to getting things done for their community. If you haven't seen the Onaway facility to this point, you are missing a great



opportunity, not only for visiting one of the most distinctive libraries in Michigan, but also for visiting one fantastic community.

New Wheatland Township Library Taking Shape

by Rebecca Kurtz, Director

On October 25th, there was a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Wheatland Township Library. Because of nice weather the construction continued and a completion date of March 25th is expected.



Staff is looking forward to moving into the new building sometime in April, and are also looking forward to added space for books and a large circulation desk, as well as a children's room. You will find the new building on Michigan Avenue.

Romeo District Library

by Marina Kruse, Director

The year 2001 was an exciting year for the Romeo District Library. In March of 2001, the Graubner Library opened as the district's new 24,000 square foot main library facility. It offers many features that the historic downtown 7,500 square foot building did not: display cases; 24-hour drive-up return box; separate teen space (the In Between Scene); community meeting room (1 large or 2 smaller rooms); reading gardens, study tables; comfortable reading areas; computer work stations; and room for all collections to grow. These features are the norm in most library facilities, but for Romeo, the existing facility only offered 4 comfortable chairs, 2 study tables and the rest of the space was all taken up with collections. A \$3.5 million

bond issue funded the facility. The bond money was only sufficient for the library space and the shell of the community meeting room area. Because of community support at fund raising efforts and 2 generous \$50,000 donors: (the Ford Foundation and the Roland Graubner Family) close to \$180,000 was raised to complete the interior space of the Ford Learning Resource and Community Room.



Once the Graubner Library opened, the historic downtown

(Continued on page 12)

Kezar Library was closed for a seven month, \$350,000 renovation project. Comfort, safety and retaining the homelike atmosphere were the guiding principles for the restoration and renovation effort. Historic preservation was also a key concern. The bulk of the work focused on maintenance and restoration work, including repair of wet plaster walls, refurbishing all original wood work, complete new electrical system to code, new paint and new carpeting. New furnishings and fixtures were selected to bring back the arts and crafts interior that was present when the building was first constructed in 1910. A defined focus was chosen for the building when it reopened. The focus was one of current popular reading materials center for all ages and a homework help center. Because the Graubner Library's size was scaled back, group study and tutorial rooms were not included in the plan. Since the Kezar Library is on the well-traveled path of students to and from elementary, middle and high schools, this was a natural fit to compliment the new main library facility. The Kezar Branch Library reopened in the atmosphere and tradition of its original beauty, comfort and décor in November of 2001. All in all it was a very good year.

Waterford Township Public Library

by Nancy Smith, Director

The Waterford Township Public Library expanded from a 6,500 square foot building to a 25,000 square foot building in 1994, sharing the building with Waterford Parks and Recreation offices. The library portion of the building is



21,000 square feet. Approximately 4,000 square feet from the original 1965 building was retained as the circulation lobby and community meeting room. This building project was long overdue for this Class VI library serving a population of 67,000 at the time of the building project. The project was made possible by the passage a library millage of 1 mill for construction and operation in 1992. This was the first library millage for the community.

The larger building allows the library to provide a separate area for young adults; a conference room; a community meeting room; and public use workstations, as well as greatly expanded shelving and seating. The current building was designed by Snyder, Szantner & Peters and constructed as phase 1 of a 2-phase growth project. The library is currently working with David Milling & Associates on a feasibility study for further expansion in the near future.

White Pigeon Township Library

by Becky Yoder, Library Clerk



In 1999, the voters of White Pigeon Township passed a bond to provide for the cost of building a new combination fire station and township hall. A member of the community donated land for the new fire station. The old fire station was then extensively renovated, and the library moved into that building in August and September of 2001.

The new library is more than three times the size of the old building. It includes an adult reading area, a new, separate teen/young adult study space, and eight computer stations with Internet access for the use of our patrons. Large windows were set into the space formerly occupied by the overhead doors, and a skylight was installed above the circulation desk to admit plenty of natural light. Two window seats with storage below were built in the children's room. A separate meeting room within the library houses the local St. Joseph County Commission on Aging meal site. There is a staff workroom with lots of storage, and the director now has her own office, instead of just a desk in the corner of the crowded workroom/lunchroom/cataloging/kitchen and repair room!

The library renovation was less of a move than it was a homecoming. This same corner at the intersection of U.S. 12 and Kalamazoo Street held a combination fire station/township hall/library for many decades. The first library in White Pigeon was upstairs in a two-story firehouse until 1961, when the current building was erected. From 1961 to 1977, the library was housed in an area comprising approximately one-quarter of the empty bank. Returning to the "old corner" brought the library full circle.

Wyoming Public Library

by John VanValkenburg

Public Relations Manager, Kent District Library



After breaking ground on August 22, 2000, the new Wyoming Public Library was dedicated on January 5, 2002. More than 3,000 visitors toured the library during the grand opening celebration that included the dedication, a community ribbon cutting and an open house for self-guided tours. Mayor Douglas Hoekstra, Kent District Library director Martha Smart, Congressman Vern Ehlers and the library's architect Lon Frye spoke at the dedication.

The Wyoming Public Library was the largest branch of Kent District Library, even before the renovation. The library nearly tripled in size and is now almost 48,000 square feet. The design of the building, however, is much more impressive than its size. From the outside, the impressive children's tower is equipped with lighting for dramatic effect. The exterior wall next to the tower is constructed with over 5,000 brightly colored tiles. These architectural features were designed to draw people to the building, and it is working. During its first full week open, the Wyoming branch had over 16,000 visitors.

Once inside the library, patrons can enjoy a spacious state-of-the-art library combined with many comforts of home. A range of colors and designs distinguishes children, young adult and adult reading areas. The children's area uses bright colors, dynamic shapes and furniture that stimulate imagination. A room was designed especially for story hours with a special floor perfect for craft activities. The children's tower provides a perfect space for toddlers, with activities such as puppets and bead puzzles. The floor is heated in this area for the coziest place to hear a story.

Adults will enjoy the quiet reading room featuring comfortable chairs, floor to ceiling windows and a custom-built fireplace with a slate mantel and gas log fire. Teens also have a space to call their own. It features tables with booth seating; cool furniture; study rooms; and decorations from all area schools.

Other amenities include a media wall; 22 Internet stations; study rooms; plenty of comfortable seating; a conference room; a community room; an art gallery; the Afterwards Café; Bookends—the Friends bookshop; 24-hour lockers to pick up materials; and a photocopy center.

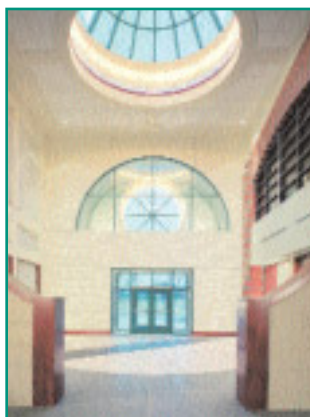
The Kent District Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped is now part of the new Wyoming branch. An adaptive technology room provides dedicated space for a computer with a Braille transcription program and JAWS audio reader software for the Internet. Also, the Wyoming Historical Collection, organized and maintained by the Wyoming Historical Commission, is housed in the library.

This renovation was funded by a special city of Wyoming millage. The Kent District Library millage funds the operational functions such as materials, programs, computers and staff. The Wyoming branch of Kent District Library is located at 3350 Michael Avenue in Wyoming. Stop in for a tour and check it out.

Ypsilanti District Library Charts A New Course

by Cheryl Rabu, Art Director

If you went no further than the atrium of the new Ypsilanti District Library you'd know that this handsome 60,000 square foot structure was designed to both capture your imagination and set it free in a world of infinite discoveries. For here, in the entrance, with its vivid cloth tapestries depicting sections of a huge compass, and topped by a dramatic glass dome, the sky truly seems to be the limit to all there is to explore.



The YDL's expanded collection of more than 200,000 books and audiovisual materials is housed in a spacious setting of warm brick

walls and cherry wood carrels, comfortable chairs and ultra-modern lighting fixtures. Whether your journey takes you to the colorful story room, back to the past in the den-like heritage room, or in front of the fireplace tucked off in the corner, you're never far from a view of the 10,000 acres of forest and wildlife where the YDL is nestled.

- Construction Costs: \$11,396,286
- Furnishings/Equipment: \$1,290,578
- Technology: \$587,629
- Opening Day Collection: \$2,400,000
- Other Costs and Fees: \$1,740,673
- Total Square Footage: 60,000
- # Pounds of Steel: 800,000
- Units of Brick: 266,000
- Glass Square Footage: 20,000
- Parking Spaces: 151
- Total Number of Computers: 101
- Land Donated by Ypsilanti Twp: 10 acres
- General Seating: 197
- Meeting Room Seating: 125
- Study/Tutoring Room Seating: 20



SBPH Braille Backpacks

by Andrew Wilson, SBPH Library Researcher

Literacy is important for everyone, and children with special needs, specifically those who are blind or visually impaired, are no exception. In this age of adaptive technology, with voice output computer programs and scanning software, Braille literacy must not be overlooked.

The Michigan Network of Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped developed a program to promote Braille literacy to blind children statewide. Using a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant, backpacks containing a variety of Braille-related materials were mailed to approximately 300 children.

The blue backpacks emblazoned with "Read to Succeed – Special Books and More for Cool Kids" contain a slate and stylus for printing Braille by hand; a spelling dictionary from the National Braille Press; a Braille primer, "Just Enough to Know Better" for parents (with flash cards and a Braille poster); and a Braille book to practice reading.

If you would like more information on the Braille backpacks, or Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired in Michigan, contact us for information on these free materials.

Library of Michigan Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at 1-800-992-9012 (Statewide).

Wayne County Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at 1-888-968-2737 (Wayne County).



Marketing Survey

by Roger Mendel, Chair PRISM

This winter, staff at WJ Schroer Company in Battle Creek, Michigan, have been busy conducting a telephone survey of library users and non-users around the state. The telephone survey was part of a larger project that included focus groups held around the state last fall. The study is intended to get a picture of what Michigan residents think about libraries and library services. The telephone calls were completed in early March. Bill Schroer and his staff spent most of March tabulating the data and writing the formal report.

At the April meeting of the PRISM (Promoting Reading and Information Services in Michigan) Committee, Bill Schroer presented the results of the survey to the committee. On May 10th, at the meeting of the Library of Michigan Board, a summary of the report was also be delivered by Bill Schroer. A summary of the results of the survey will also appear in the July issue of *Access*.

During the spring and early summer, the PRISM committee will take the results of the survey and develop a marketing plan. Watch here for further details.

(Continued from page 1)

2003, Michigan libraries and library users will continue to have access to the following resources via FirstSearch:

- WorldCat
- OCLC ArticleFirst
- OCLC Electronic Collections Online
- OCLC NetFirst
- OCLC Union List of Periodicals
- PapersFirst
- ProceedingsFirst
- ERIC
- GPO
- MEDLINE
- World Almanac
- Business and Industry
- Wilson SelectPlus (full text)
- Applied Science & Technology Abstracts
- Art Abstracts
- Biography Index
- Biological & Agricultural Index
- Book Review Digest
- Education Abstracts
- Essay & General Literature Index
- General Science Abstracts
- Humanities Abstracts
- Index to Legal Periodicals
- Library Literature
- Readers' Guide Abstracts
- Social Sciences Abstracts
- Wilson Business Abstracts

Please note: Essay & General Literature Index is being added. This database was not part of the Wilson package last year. 85 percent of the use of the former Panorama Package was in the remaining databases.

Libraries who are interested in purchasing access to any of the First Search databases that will no longer be part of AccessMichigan should contact the Michigan Library Consortium for group and per search pricing.

netLibrary

The MEL Ebook collection is not a subscription. This collection of *netLibrary* titles will continue to be accessible through all libraries and via remote patron access.

What happens after September 30, 2003?

The Library of Michigan will continue to provide core resources for all Michigan libraries. An RFP for these services will be issued in late 2002/early 2003. LM plans to use a highly participatory process to identify topic areas to be included in the RFP. Open discussion groups will be conducted around the state to allow librarians to provide input into this process.

If you have questions, please contact Becky Cawley, Statewide Database Administrator, at rcawley@michigan.gov or 517-373-4466.

Lake Odessa Community Library

by *Connie Teachworth, Director*

The Lake Odessa Community Library will be adding approximately 25 years worth of illusive, local newspapers to their microfilm collection. The missing papers from the Lake Odessa Wave have finally been secured for filming and will be finished sometime in the summer of 2002. The project cost is estimated to be \$5,000 of which a grant from the Ionia County Community Foundation will cover \$2,500. Additional funds from the local Lions Club, Odessa Township and Union Bank will also offset the cost.

White Pine Library

by *Katie Arwood, Director*

In 365 days, the White Pine Library's "20/20 Vision" fund raising campaign designed an addition and renovation plan; hired a general contractor; presented the plan to the community; raised over \$160,000 through individual donations; and completed construction. Whew!

The White Pine Library added a 30x44-ft. addition and a basement for storage underneath. Through this project the library expanded its genealogy area, its children's and young adult area; opened up space for programs; added a reading area with comfy chairs and a couch; and included a new entryway. New shelving, carpeting, paint and art completed this much needed and much appreciated addition and renovation. We are looking forward to spring when we will add the finishing touch: landscaping!

Saline District Library

by *Leslee Niethammer, Director*

On Tuesday, December 4, 2001, the Saline Area School Board agreed to transfer 1.4 acres of land to the Saline District Library. The land, commonly called "the hill" by both parties, is land locked between Saline High School and the Library. The Library was interested in acquiring the land, to provide for expansion possibilities, or the creation of natural areas to be enjoyed by residents in the district. The Library has a 7-acre wooded wetlands area that has trails and sign markers posted for people to learn about and enjoy. Acquiring the hill will benefit the community in several ways. "The transfer was seen as an excellent action by both the school board and the library board," stated Leslee Niethammer, library director.

The New Southfield Public Library "Topping Off"

by *Nancy Kulish,*

The tradition of "topping off" a new structure dates back for centuries. Its purpose is to celebrate the completion of a structure. The Vikings placed a tree on top of a completed structure as a symbol that there was no loss of life or injury on the building. Also, a decorated object on the topmost point was a signal that a celebration was about to begin. This practice was brought to America by immigrants who became contractors and steelworkers. Today it is celebrated by the placement of the topmost piece of a structure. While there is still a great deal of work to be done to complete the new Southfield Public Library, the "topping off" represents the safe and successful attainment of the highest point.



Springfield Township Library

by *Cathy Forst, Director*

The Springfield Township Library recently moved to a new facility. To encourage the community to feel a part of this new building, the Friends decided to sell bricks. The library's new plaza has the engraved bricks, memorial benches and a flagpole, as well as landscaping. It will be an ongoing fundraiser for the Friends as the library expands. The library hopes to have the dedication for the plaza and the building later this spring.



Your 2002 Access Team: standing L-R, Sarah Watkins, Tim Watters, Jenn Houseman, Andrew Wilson; Nancy Whitmer, Lucy Roehrig; seated L-R, Becky Cawley, Karrie Waarala, Jo Budler, Linda Neely.

If you have a news item you would like to contribute, please contact Jo Budler at 517-373-5507 or email: jbudler@libraryofmichigan.org.



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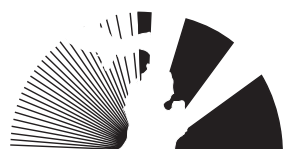
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